



APR 2003



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Your Reference: P/63699.GBA **Application No: GB 0227797.8**

3 April 2003

Dear Sirs

Patents Act 1977: Search Report under Section 17(5)

I enclose two copies of my search report and a copy of the citation.

Publication

I estimate that, provided you have met all formal requirements, preparations for publication of your application will be completed soon after 20 April 2004. You will then receive a letter informing you of completion and telling you the publication number and date of publication.

Amendment/withdrawal

If you wish to file amended claims for inclusion with the published application, or to withdraw the application to prevent publication, you must do so before the preparations for publication are completed. No reminder will be issued. If you write to the Office less than 3 weeks before the above completion date, please mark your letter prominently: "URGENT - PUBLICATION IMMINENT".

Yours faithfully

Richard Howe Examiner

[†]Use of E-mail: Please note that e-mail should be used for correspondence only.









Application No:

GB 0227797.8

Claims searched:

1-21

Examiner:

Date of search:

Richard Howe

2 April 2003

Patents Act 1977: Search Report under Section 17

Documents considered to be relevant:

| Category | Relevant to claims | Identity of document and passage or figure of particular relevance | | |
|----------|-----------------------|--|-----------------------|--|
| A | | JP 11331188 _. A | Nippon - see abstract | |

Categories: Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step A Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art. Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the with one or more other documents of same category. filing date of this invention. Member of the same patent family Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application. Field of Search:

| Search of GB, EP, WO & US p | patent documents classified in the foll | lowing areas of the UKC ^v : | |
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Worldwide search of patent documents classified in the following areas of the IPC7:

H04Q (3/00)

The following online and other databases have been used in the preparation of this search report:

EPODOC; WPI; JAPIO